GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7678
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2000
POLIO ERADICATION
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the `red alert` has been sounded in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal due to outbreak of a large number of polio cases;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any new measures have been chalked out to eradicate polio disease in respect of the said States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTEROF CHEMICAL AND FERITILIZERS

SHRI SURESH P. PRABHU

(a) & (b) During 1999 Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal accounted for more than 87% of polio cases in the country.This high incidence is mainly due to low coverage with Oral Polio Vaccine under the Routine Immunization programme, large cohorts of new born children every year, inadequate coverage of newborn children for vaccination during Pulse Polio Immunization rounds and large scale migration.

(c)& (d) In addition to 4 nationwide rounds of Pulse Polio Immunization conducted in all States during 1999-2000, two additional rounds of Pulse Polio Immunization were undertaken in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal and one additional round in Delhi. During these rounds in addition to fixed post immunization done on the first day, house to house immunization was undertaken during the next 3-4 days to ensure that no child was missed. Funds for carrying out all these activities were provided by Government of India. The government intends to intensify the Pulse Polio Programme in these states in the current year.The performance of the concerned State Governments in the Routine Immunization Programme is being reviewed periodically and the States are being requested to take corrective steps. Surveillance operations in these States are also being intensified.